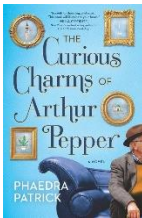




As the holidays take on a unique mode of promise with the arrival of a vaccine to hopefully turn the tide of COVID-19, we decorate to share our traditions and keep the festive lights of the season in our hearts. We hope that all are staying safe, healthy, and inspired by the messages of love and understanding that guide us.



On Monday, December 21st at 2 PM the AAUW Cobb Book Group will be discussing The Curious Charms of Arthur Pepper by Phaedra Patrick for our holiday selection. Barbara Blue will provide a discussion guide. This will be a ZOOM meeting ... and if you want to join in the discussion you are welcome ... or join in any time to share holiday time together. To put us in a fun festive mood, please wear your favorite holiday sweater and share a holiday memory or tradition. A ZOOM invite will be sent to both the book group and to the membership.

This month, Barbara Blue and Mary Ann Krus represented the branch at the wake and the funeral mass for Jo Rae Dahl. We are grateful they were able to attend the beautiful service and express condolences in person from AAUW. At her request, Jo Rae's family is accepting donations to AAUW Cobb in her memory. If you would like to post a personal memory to Jo Rae's collage, go to www.mem/09913143.



Our Bookfair and online book sales fundraising efforts enabled the branch to support local schools, students, scholarships and AAUW funds. The following donations were submitted in December:

- \$3,000 to CTC Foundation to sponsor two deserving scholarship recipients
- \$1,000 \$500 to the two scholarship recipients to help with living costs during the pandemic (will be presented in the spring when recipients are announced by the foundation)
- \$ 750 to the Support Grant at CTC to help students struggling during the pandemic
- \$1,000 to the Atlanta Girls' School to recognize their 20th Anniversary
- \$1,000 to AAUW LAF (Legal Advocacy Fund)

We are so grateful to our members for the support and the hours they devote to our fundraising efforts.

Speaking of fundraising, the Bookfair Steering Committee met on December 11th to share updates on finances, future venue options, committee rules, donations and plans for a January 2021 ThriftBooks delivery. Internet book sales and ThriftBooks proceeds enable branches to continue with fundraising efforts. The branch membership will be asked to submit suggestions/edits for an informative brochure to encourage book donations to AAUW. Please look for that in January.



On January 12th we will have a ZOOM branch meeting at 2:00 PM. An agenda will be sent prior to the meeting ... put on your thinking caps! At the meeting, it will be important to discuss moving forward, as well as review suggestions and plans for programs / events for next year.

